

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a hinge;
a multi-level symbol encoder to receive display data and to generate multi-level symbols;
an optical link provided through the hinge and coupled to the symbol encoder; and
a multi-level symbol decoder coupled to the optical link to receive the symbols and to re-create the display data.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the symbol encoder and the symbol decoder as associated with at least one of: (i) multi-level amplitude symbols, (ii) multi-level phase symbols, and (iii) multi-level pulse width symbols.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the optical link includes:
a light source coupled to the symbol encoder;
an optical waveguide coupled to the light source; and
an optical receiver coupled to the optical waveguide and to the symbol decoder.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the light source is a laser diode, the optical waveguide is a fiber optic cable, and the optical receiver is a positive, intrinsic, negative diode.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the apparatus further includes an amplifier coupled between the optical receiver and the symbol decoder.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the symbol encoder receives the display data from at least one of: (i) a processor, (ii) a chipset, (iii) a low voltage differential signaling interface, (iv) a graphics array interface, and (v) a digital video out interface.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a display device to receive the display data from the symbol decoder.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the display device comprises one of: (i) a liquid-crystal display device, (ii) a light-emitting diode display device, (iii) a gas-plasma display device, (iv) a cathode ray tube display device, (v) a field emission device, (vi) a flat panel device, and/or (vii) a passive transmissive device.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the symbol encoder is housed in a first portion of a mobile computer, the symbol decoder is housed in a second portion of the mobile computer, and the first and second portions are movably coupled.

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

encoding display data into multi-level symbols;

transmitting the symbols via an optical link provided through a hinge; and

decoding the symbols into the display data.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the encoding and decoding are associated with at least one of: (i) multi-level amplitude symbols, (ii) multi-level phase symbols, and (iii) multi-level pulse width symbols.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

receiving the display data.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the display data is received from a chipset.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

providing the display data to a display device.

15. (Currently Amended) An article, comprising:

a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

encoding display data into multi-level symbols,

transmitting the symbols via an optical link provided through a hinge, and

decoding the symbols into the display data.

16. (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein execution of the instructions further results in:

providing the display data to a display device.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a first portion, the first portion housing:

a keyboard,

a processor, and

a multi-level symbol encoder to receive display data generated by the processor and to generate multi-level symbols; and

a second portion, the second portion housing:

a multi-level symbol decoder to receive the symbols and to re-create the display data, and

a display device to receive the re-created display data,

wherein an optical link provided through a hinge couples to the symbol encoder and symbol decoder and the hinge couples the first portion to the second portion.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the first portion and the second portion are movably coupled.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the apparatus is a mobile computer.

20. (Original) A mobile computer, comprising:

a first portion, the first portion housing:

a processing device; and

a second portion, the second portion housing:

a display device,

wherein an optical link is to provide data from the processing device to the display device.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ mobile computer of claim 20, wherein the first portion and the second portion are movably coupled.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ mobile computer of claim ~~22~~ 20, wherein the display device is a liquid-crystal display device. optical link comprises:

~~a light source coupled to the symbol encoder;~~

~~an optical waveguide coupled to the light source; and~~

~~an optical receiver coupled to the optical waveguide and to the symbol decoder.~~

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a first portion, the first portion housing:

a processor, and

a multi-level symbol encoder to receive peripheral data and to generate multi-level symbols; and

a second portion, the second portion housing:

a multi-level symbol decoder to receive the symbols and to re-create the peripheral data, and

a peripheral interface,

wherein an optical link is provided through a hinge and couples to the symbol encoder and symbol decoder.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the first portion and the second portion are movably coupled.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the apparatus is mobile computer.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the peripheral interface is associated with a universal serial bus.